



NCUA Media Advisory

NCUA Opens New Office of Minority and Women Inclusion

January 21, 2011, Alexandria, Va. -- Chairman Debbie Matz today cut the ribbon officially opening NCUA's new Office of Minority and Women Inclusion (OMWI). The Chairman was joined by OMWI Director Tawana James at NCUA headquarters in Alexandria.



OMWI was formed in response to the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010. OMWI Director Tawana James will oversee Dodd-Frank Act requirements relating to diversity, civil rights and the promotion of minority and women hiring and contracting practices throughout the credit union industry. Staffing of the new office is ongoing.

The statutory mission of OMWI relates to diversity in management, employment, and business activities. This includes:

- Equal employment opportunity and the racial, ethnic, and gender diversity of the workforce and senior management of the agency;
- Increased participation of minority-owned and women-owned businesses in the programs and contracts of the agency, including standards for coordinating technical assistance to such businesses;
- Assessing the diversity policies and practices of entities regulated by the agency; and

- Preserving credit unions run by minorities and/or serving minorities.

Ms. James plans to obtain input from external and internal stakeholders to shape the way forward for OMWI in implementing equal opportunity and inclusion for all minorities and women. She is meeting with external organizations as well as internal offices to gather information concerning current practices and data available to understand NCUA's status. Based on input from all stakeholders, Ms. James will formulate OMWI's operating plans and help move NCUA forward in supporting the goal of NCUA becoming the "employer of choice – understanding that a diverse workforce strengthens the agency, enriches employees, and enhances output," a goal set for the agency by Chairman Matz. You may reach the new office at OMWI@ncua.gov.

"I am confident that the new Office of Minority and Women Inclusion will provide crucial focus and direction to NCUA and credit union efforts to reach all segments of the population. Ensuring diversity of our employees and contractors will open the door to new opportunities for the agency, credit unions as well as minorities and women."

NCUA is the independent federal agency that regulates, charters and supervises federal credit unions. With the backing of the full faith and credit of the U.S. government, NCUA operates and manages the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund, insuring the deposits of over 90 million account holders in all federal credit unions and the overwhelming majority of state-chartered credit unions.

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